



# THE FORT ST. GEORGE GAZETTE

## EXTRAORDINARY

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No. 131

MADRAS, MONDAY, JULY 17, 1939

## LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

Madras Ordinance No. 1 of 1939.

## No. 1.

An Ordinance to indemnify officers of Government and certain other persons in respect of acts done or omitted to be done, in respect of entry into and exit from places of worship in, Hindu temples by certain classes of Hindus who by custom or usage are excluded from such entry and worship.

Whereas the Madras Legislature is not in session; And whereas a situation has arisen in which it has become necessary to protect and indemnify against legal proceedings certain persons who in good faith have taken steps for the peaceful restoration of the same and objects underlying the Temple Entry legislation already enacted in the Province of Madras; And whereas the Government of Madras is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action to protect and indemnify the said persons and to provide ventilation and other proceedings until such time as the Legislature can consider the Bill published for the purpose or any other suitable measure;

And whereas the instructions of the Governor-General under subsection (1) of section 51 of the Government of India Act, 1935, have been obtained;

The Governor is pleased so much and pennable the following Ordinance, namely:

1. (1) This Ordinance may be called the Madras Temple Entry Indemnity Ordinance, 1939.

(2) It extends to the whole of the Province of Madras.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. Any officer of Government, or committee authority, officer or servant of any Local Board or Municipality, or trustee, officer or other authority constituted or acting under the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Board, or any person or persons assisting or acting in the name of any such person or persons acting or acting under the

authority of or with the permission of such officer, servant, authority, trustee, priest or person and any person assisting, shall be protected, and no action shall be taken against him in respect of any act done or omitted to be done, in respect of entry into and exit from places of worship in, Hindu temples by certain classes of Hindus who by custom or usage are excluded from such entry and worship in the said temples.

and all officers, servants, authorities, trustees, priests and other persons aforesaid are hereby indemnified and discharged from all liability in respect of all such acts, steps and alleged failure of duty.

3. No suit for damages, injunctive or declaratory in nature or for any other relief, or proceedings for any offence, and no application or other proceedings under the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Board Act, 1920, or any other law shall be instituted in respect of any entry into, or worship in, the Temple of the Hindu people or any other Hindu temple in the Province, which was prohibited or which was prohibited by the authorities in charge of the temple, on the ground that such entry or worship is against the usage or custom which excludes certain classes of Hindus from such entry or worship, without the previous sanction of the Provincial Government and as such not, nor will any application or proceedings for any relief be entertained or proceeded with unless the sanction of the Provincial Government.

Enacted,  
Governor of Madras.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor)

F. APPY NARAYAN  
Secretary to Government